AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)

U.S. Application No.: 10/526,466

Attorney Docket No.: O86580

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A tire characterized by using as a member, a rubber

composition comprising (a) a rubber component comprising at least one selected from a natural

rubber and a diene base synthetic rubber, (b) silica having a nitrogen-absorbing specific surface

area (N₂SA) of 180 to 270 m²/g, 0.1 to 10.0 mass parts of (c) a partial ester compound of maleic

anhydride and a (poly)oxypropylene derivative per 100 mass parts of the rubber component

described above, and (d) at least one hydrazide compound selected from naphthoic acid

hydrazides and salicylic acid hydrazides in an amount of 0.1 to 5.0 mass parts per 100 mass parts

of the rubber component (a),

wherein the silica (b) contained in the rubber composition has a content of 2 to 50 mass

parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the hydrazide

compound (d) is 2-hydroxy-N'-(1,3-dimethylbutylidene)-3-naphthoic acid hydrazide.

4. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein 20 mass parts or

more of the natural rubber is contained in 100 mass parts of the whole rubber component.

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5. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the rubber composition comprises (e) carbon black having a nitrogen-absorbing specific surface area (N_2SA) of 30 to 160 m²/g and a dibutyl phthalate oil absorption (DBP) of 60 to 150 ml/100 g in

an amount of 30 to 80 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component (a).

6. (canceled).

- 7. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, comprising a heavy load tire.
- 8. (original): The tire as described in claim 7, wherein the tire for a heavy load is an off-road tire.
- 9. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the rubber composition described above is applied to a cap tread and/or an undertread in a tread part.
- 10. (currently amended): A tire characterized by using as a tread rubber, a rubber composition comprising (A) a rubber component comprising a conjugate diene base rubber, (B) a filler comprising 10 mass % or more of silica based on the total amount of fillersfiller, (C) a partial ester compound of maleic anhydride and a (poly)oxypropylene derivative, and (D) at least

one resin selected from a petroleum base resin having a softening point of 30 to 150°C and an α -olefin base resin.

11. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the partial ester compound described above is a compound represented by the following Formula (I):

H C C O H
$$(1)$$

H C (1)
 (1)

wherein m is a number of 3 to 7 showing an average polymerization degree, and R¹ is an alkyl group or an alkenyl group having 8 to 18 carbon atoms.

- 12. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 10, wherein the conjugate diene base rubber comprises at least a styrene-butadiene copolymer rubber.
- 13. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 10, wherein a blending amount of the filler as the component (B) is 30 to 150 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component.

14. (canceled)

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15. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 10, wherein the rubber

composition described above further comprises a softening agent comprising an oil in which a

dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) extract amount measured by an IP346 method is controlled to less

than 3 mass %.

16. (canceled)

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